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THE BRYOLOGIST

VOL. XII

SEPTEMBER 1909

No. 5

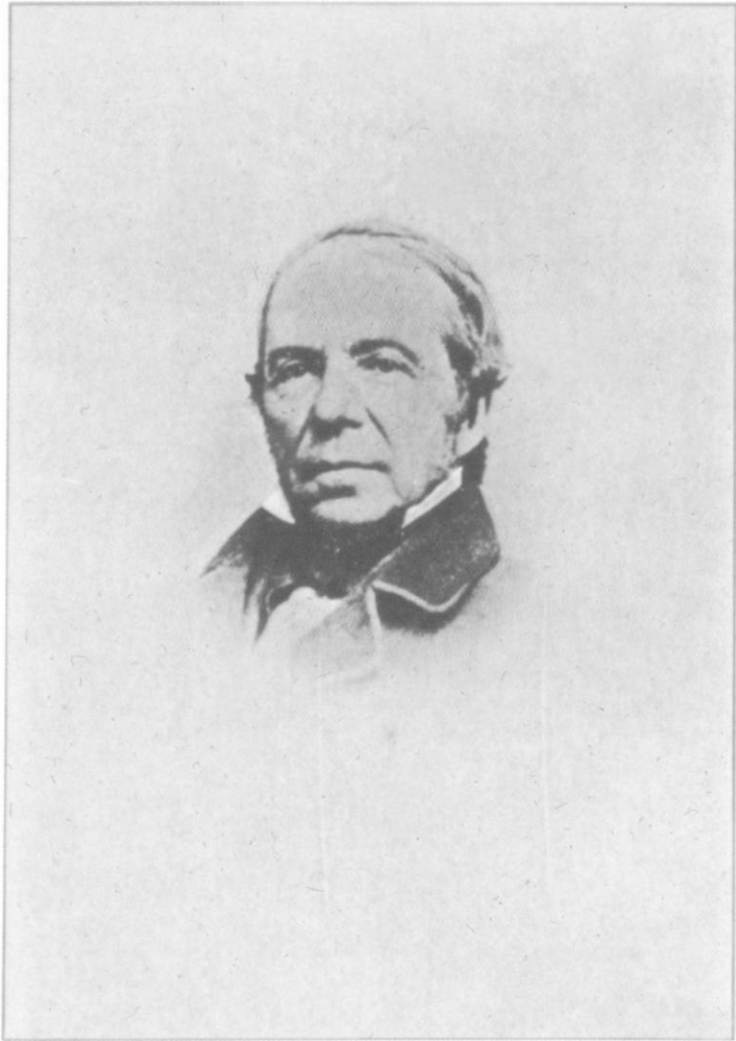
LEO LESQUEREUX 1806-1889.

ANNIE MORRILL SMITH.

For a number of years we have been trying to obtain data for a reasonably full account of the life and work of Leo Lesquereux, but the material on which to base such a sketch seems most difficult to obtain. There is an interesting article in *The Popular Science Monthly*, for April, 1887, Vol. 30, No. 6, by L. R. McCabe, which is a report of a personal visit to Dr. Lesquereux in his home, at Columbus, Ohio, made not so long before his death which took place on October 25, 1889. One reason why the botanical journals of the time failed to record his death is that for so many years his time had been given exclusively to Paleobotany and hence the omission by botanists to notice his passing. The following is based on McCabe's article.

Charles Leo Lesquereux was born at Fleurier, Neufchâtel, Switzerland, November 18, 1806. His immediate ancestors were French Huguenots. His father was a manufacturer of watch springs and wished his son to follow the same trade, but his mother favored the ministry as her son's health was delicate. The love of nature was already deep in his heart and circumstances later determined his preference for another pursuit. After finishing his studies at the Academy of Neufchâtel he went to Weimer. Here he met the lady who later became his wife, and brought her back to live at Fleurier, where he began the study of mosses and later of fossil botany. It was at this period that he became interested in peat, its formation, and possible reproduction. The protection of the peat-bogs, the principal fuel of Switzerland, was then a matter of great importance to the government. Lesquereux published some memoirs of his investigations, and these attracted the attention of Agassiz, then occupying the chair of Natural History in the Academy of Neufchâtel. He invited the author to visit him for a consultation on the theories set forth, and thus a friendship was started which ended only with Agassiz's death. Later a prize was offered by the government for the best popular treatise on the formation and reproduction of peat, and the memoir by Lesquereux won the gold medal and gained wide reputation for the author, and it is still quoted as one of the best authorities on the subject. The author subsequently explored the peat-bogs of northern Europe becoming master of the botany, physics, chemistry, and geology of those districts, and was led to think that the theory he had formulated might be applied to the coal seams of our country. To the New World he now transferred his labors, coming in 1848, when having become totally deaf, in the prime of life, he also found himself deprived of scientific employment at home in consequence of the political changes following the revolution.

The July BRYOLOGIST was issued July 1, 1909.



Respectfully & Sincerely yours
A. A. Sequeren

PLATE IX.

He came to Boston, and became an inmate of the Agassiz household, working on the botanical part of Agassiz's "Journey to Lake Superior" until Christmas Eve., 1848, when at the invitation of William Starling Sullivan he went to Columbus, Ohio, and, entering that eminent bryologist's laboratory, continued the study of mosses.

At the close of the year 1849, under the advice and with the co-operation of Mr. Sullivan, he made a tour of exploration among the mountains of the Southern States, for the collection of plant specimens, and secured a great variety of plants, which found a ready sale among scientific students. He was particularly successful in the collection of mosses. The preparation of the specimens, their determination and distribution, gave him employment for two years, and resulted in one of the most valuable contributions to American bryology—the "*Musci Americani Exsiccati*," by W. S. Sullivan and L. Lesquereux. The expense of preparation and publication of this work was defrayed by Mr. Sullivan, who allowed his colleague the benefit of the sales. Using that author's library and herbarium—now the property of Harvard College—for their common studies, Lesquereux lent most valuable assistance to the preparation of Mr. Sullivan's works on the mosses of the Wilkes' South Pacific Exploring Expedition, Whipple's Pacific Railroad Exploration, and the "*Icones Muscorum*." The publication of Brongniart's "*Prodrome*," and the commencement of the "*Histoire des Végétaux Fossils*," in 1828, laid the solid basis upon which the science of paleobotany has been erected. Lesquereux began to write in 1845, and his studies in America have been directed especially in the line of fossil botany. His most valuable researches, beginning in 1850, lay in the study of coal formations of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Kentucky, and Arkansas, and his reports appear in the geological surveys of all these States. Particularly important are his studies of the coal flora of Pennsylvania, published in the report of H. D. Rogers in 1858, together with a "Catalogue of the Fossil Plants which have been named or described from the Coal-Measures of North America." Lesquereux also worked up the coal flora in the second geological survey of Pennsylvania. The fruit of this labor was two volumes of text and an atlas, published in 1880—the most important work on carboniferous plants that has been produced in America. Geological work, especially researches on fossil botany, in connection with the United States Geological Surveys of the Territories, began in 1868 to absorb his attention. He was employed to work up the collection of Dr. F. V. Hayden's surveys of the Territories, and important papers on the subject appeared in the annual reports of the surveys from 1870 to 1874 inclusive. Lesquereux was frequently called to Cambridge to determine the specimens of fossil plants in Professor Agassiz's museum, where he was a guest in the naturalist's household for weeks and months at a time, and his attachment to him grew very strong.

The fraternal bond that binds the scientific world is very strong as was witnessed by his attachment to Guyot and Agassiz, the former coming to this country at the same time as Lesquereux, and both only two years after Agassiz arrived.

LIST OF WORKS AND MEMOIRS PUBLISHED BY PROFESSOR LEO LESQUEREUX.

1. Catalogue of the Mosses of Switzerland and Mennirs. Natural History Society. Neufchâtel. 1840.
2. Explorations of Peat-Bogs. Received gold medal prize from the Government of Neufchâtel.
3. Directions for the Exploration of Peat Bogs. 1844.
4. Letters written on Germany. 1846.
5. Letters written on America. 1849-1855.
6. Botany of Agassiz's Lake Superior. 1848.
7. New Species of Fossil Plants. Boston Journal of Natural History. 1854.
8. Paleontological Report. Pennsylvania Geological Report. 1857.
9. Paleontological Report. Kentucky Geological Report, vol. iii. 1857.
10. Paleontological Report. Kentucky Geological Report, vol. iv. 1861.
11. Catalogue of the Fossil Plants of the Coal-Measures of Pennsylvania. 1858.
12. Paleontological and Botanical Report. Arkansas Geological Report. 1860.
13. Paleontological and Geological Report of Indiana. 1862.
14. Paleontological Report of Illinois. Worthen's Geological Report, vol. ii. 1866.
15. Paleontological Report of Illinois. Worthen's Geological Report, vol. iv. 1870.
16. Catalogue of California Mosses. Transactions of American Philosophical Society, vol. xiii. 1864.
17. On Tertiary Fossil Plants of Mississippi. Transactions of American Philosophical Society, vol. xiii. 1864.
16. On Fucoïds in the Coal. Transactions of American Philosophical Society, vol. xiii. 1864.
17. On Pacific Coast Mosses in California. Academy of Sciences. 1868.
18. Musci Exsiccati, first edition. In association with W. S. Sullivan, 1856.
19. Musci Exsiccati, second edition. 1865.
22. Report to Hayden. United States Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories. 1870.
- 23-26. Report to Hayden. 1871-1873.
27. Monograph of the Cretaceous Flora of the Dakota Group. 1874.
28. Review of the Fossil Flora of North America. (Republished, with corrections, in the Penn Monthly), 1875.
29. Article on Coal and Coal Flora. Encyclopaedia of North America.
30. Text (Latin) of Sullivan's Supplement to the Icones.. 1874.

31. On Some New Species of Fossil Plants, Tertiary. Bulletin 52, second series of Hayden. 1875.
On Some New Species of Fossil Plants, Cretaceous. 1875.
32. Report on the Cretaceous and Tertiary Floras of Western Territories. Hayden's Report, and separate copies. 1874.
33. Species of Fossil Marine Plants found in the Carboniferous Measures. Geological Survey of Indiana, Seventh Annual Report. 1876.
34. Plants of the Silurian. Proceedings of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia. 1877.
35. Contributions to the Fossil Flora of the Western Territories. United States Geological and Geographical Survey.
The Tertiary Flora. 1877.
36. Pliocene Flora of the Auriferous Gravel of California. Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge. 1878.
37. Catalogue of the Fossil Plants of the Tertiary and of the Cretaceous. Hayden's Report. 1878.
38. On Cordaites. American Philosophical Society. 1878.
39. On a Branch of Cordaites bearing Fruit. American Philosophical Society. 1879.
40. The Coal Flora (Atlas). Second Pennsylvania Geological Survey. 1879-1884.
41. The Coal Flora (Text). Three volumes. 1880-1884.
42. Manual of the American Mosses. With Collaboration of Thomas P. James. 1884.
43. Monography of the Cretaceous and Tertiary Flora of the United States. Geological and Geographical Survey of the Territories, vol. viii. 1883.
44. Principles of Palæozoic Botany. Geological Report of Indiana. 1884.
45. Vegetable Origin of Coal. Report of the Geological Survey of Pennsylvania. 1885.
46. Divers Questions concerning Coal. Silliman's Journal. 1860.
On the Fossil Fruits of the Lignites of Brandon. 1861.
On Some Fossil Plants of the Recent Formations. 1859.
On Some Fossil Plants of John Evans. 1859.
On the Origin and Formation of the Prairies. 1865.
On the Formation of Lignite Beds. 1874.
On Land Plants in the Lower Silurian. 1874.

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